

# VICTORIAN WALK OF THE MONTH

**Location: Dandenongs**

**Number 10 – Sassafras Creek – Circuit Walk**

**Melway 124G1, VicMap 7922-2-2 Cardinia Creek**

**Starting Point: Baynes Park Picnic Ground, Melway 124G1**

**Standard:** Easy 13 Km. Allow 5 hours, for a relaxed walk including lunch stop.  
(Shorter alternative as described below 8km approx.)

**Footwear:** Comfortable shoes or boots.

**Best Time of year:** All Year

**Highlights:** An easy walk through remnant bushland along Sassafras Creek; with good views over market gardens on the return to the start through Monbulk.

**Altitude:** Starting Point 210m – highest point 280m on Seamer Road – lowest point 160m at Butterfields Reserve

**Facilities:** There are public facilities at Baynes Park.

**Approach:** From Melbourne  
Burwood Highway to Belgrave then Monbulk Road, to Monbulk.

**Parking:** At Baynes Park Picnic Ground.

## **The Walk:**

From the picnic area, walk 100m down Baynes Park Road to the bridge on Sassafras Creek. Take care when crossing the road and locate the start of the walking track. Both Melway and VicMap show the start of the track on the opposite bank of the river to that which is now in use. Although not signposted at this point (May 2009) the track is well defined, after a short distance it crosses the creek on a foot-bridge. The section between Baynes Park Road and Moxhams Road contains some very large trees, making this a delightful introduction to the walk. After Moxhams Road the track follows through a narrowing bushland reserve, sometimes it draws very close to the Emerald-Monbulk Road and there are numerous exit points to this road - offering alternative walking should the track be muddy after heavy rain.

After the junction with Rankins Road a minor creek joins the valley and Sassafras Creek now becomes Woori Yallock Creek.

The circuit walk can be significantly shortened at this point if desired. Instead of continuing down the creek reserve, turn left and walk up the steep hill of Rankins Road for 1.5km to David Hill Road, turn left and follow this road for 1.5km into Monbulk's Main Street. At the second roundabout turn left down hill into Baynes Park Road.

Continue by Woori Yallock Creek to the small picnic ground at Butterfield Reserve, there are tables but no other facilities. Turn left into Old Emerald Road, which winds its way up hill though part open pasture and dense woodland. At the junction with Wards Road keep left on Old Emerald Road and continue up hill. Turn left into Seamer Road to enjoy the panoramic views as you continue to the highest point of this walk, descend and turn left into McAllister Road. Now keeping a lookout for traffic, walk down to the dip in the road - the junction with Emerald Creek Road – turn left over the bridge, go up the hill to the end of McAllister Road, turn left again into Moores Road, past Monbulk Oval you will arrive at the second roundabout in Monbulk at the top of Baynes Park Road, walk down to your vehicle.

Feedback: Please let me know how you enjoyed this walk and if the information given was sufficient – send your email to: [footsteps@bigpond.com](mailto:footsteps@bigpond.com) Alex Passmore – May 2009.